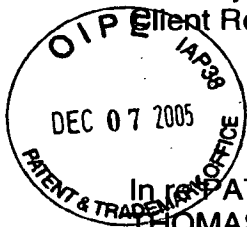


3612/182

Attorney's Docket 020826-0312606

Client Reference: 702421US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:
THOMAS W LONGO

Confirmation Number: 4072

Application No.: 10/511,752

Group Art Unit: 3612

Filed: October 19, 2004

Examiner: Kiran B. PATEL

For: COLLISION ENERGY-ABSORBING DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL

Transmitted herewith is a Response to Election of Species and Restriction Requirement for this application.

FEES

The fee for claims and extension of time (37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17) has been calculated as shown below:

| | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR | PRESENT EXTRA | | RATE | | ADDIT. FEE | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|------------------|---|------|---------|---------------|---------|
| TOTAL | 61 | - | 61 | = | 0 | X \$ | = | \$ |
| INDEP. | 5 | - | 5 | = | 0 | X \$ | = | \$ |
| FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM | | | | | | + \$ | = | \$ 0.00 |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE | | | | | | | \$ | |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | | | | | \$ | 0.00 |

Application No. 10/511,752
Attorney Docket No. 020826/0312606

FEE PAYMENT

Authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of \$0.00 to Deposit Account No. 033975. Charge any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment in the manner authorized above. A duplicate of this paper is attached.

Date: 12/7/05 
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP THOMAS P. HILLIARD
P.O. Box 10500 Reg. No. 40330
McLean, VA 22102
703 770.7591



Attorney Docket No. 020826-3312606
Client Reference: 702421 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:
Thomas W. LONGO

Confirmation Number: 4072

Application No.: 10/511,752

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Examiner: Kiran B. PATEL

Title: COLLISION ENERGY-ABSORBING DEVICE

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES
AND RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

December 7, 2005

In response to the Office Action dated November 10, 2005, the following elections and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has made a requirement for restriction between the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 1-25, drawn to a collision energy-absorbing device;

Group II: Claims 26-51, drawn to a combination;

Group III: Claims 52-56, drawn to a collision energy-absorbing device; and

Group IV: Claims 57-59, drawn to the combination; and

Group V: Claims 60-61, drawn to a pair of lost motion connecting structures.

In order to comply with the Examiner's Restriction Requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute Group I, directed to claims 1-25, for prosecution in the present application. This election is with traverse. In particular, the Office Action has presented only an explanation for the restriction between Group II and the other claims. The Office Action remains silent as to any reasons why each of the Groups I, III, IV and V are themselves distinct from the

other Groups and has not provided any reasons why each of the Groups I, III, IV, and V present a serious burden on the examiner. See MPEP 803.01. Thus, the restriction requirement is improper and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has set forth an Election of Species Requirement as follows:

| <u>Species</u> | <u>Figure</u> |
|----------------|---------------|
| A | 1, 3-10 |
| B | 2 |
| C | 11 |
| D | 12 |
| E | 13 |
| F | 14 |
| G | 15 |
| H | 16 |
| I | 17 |
| J | 18 |
| K | 19 |
| L | 20 |
| M | 21-29, 32-33 |
| N | 30-31 |
| O | 34-39 |
| P | 40-41 |
| Q | 42-43 |
| R | 44-45 |
| S | 46-47 |

In order to comply with the Examiner's Election of Species Requirement, Applicant elects Species A, Figures 1, 3-10, readable on claims 1-25, for prosecution in the present application. This election is made with traverse. In particular, certain figures identified as species are merely cross-sectional views of other figures and, thus, are part of other identified species. For example, Fig. 15 is a cross section of Fig. 1; Fig. 17 is a cross-section of Fig. 11; Fig. 18 is a cross-section of Fig. 12; Fig. 19 is a cross-section of Fig. 13; and Fig. 20 is a cross-section of Fig. 14. Thus, the species of Figs. 1, 3-10


should include Fig. 15.

Favorable action on the present application is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions in this regard, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP

By: 

Thomas P. Hilliard
Reg. No.: 40,330
Tel. No.: (703) 770-7591
Fax No.: (703) 770-7901

TPH/cms
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 770-7900
(703) 770-7901 (fax)